

# THE GATEWAY

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2005 a year in review

DESIGN BY MIKE ROBERTSON, WITH WORK BY NIK BOLJANATZ, MIKE OTTO, NADYA BELL, MATT FREHNER, MIKE KENDRICK AND VIVIENNE JONES

## THE GATEWAY

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The illustrations in the Gateway's sister paper, The Gateway's  
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## Campus space shortages and SU money woes in 2005

ROSS PRUSKOWSKI  
News Staff

1. While few of the current student body likely remember it, the Powerplant turned a profit as recently as 2000/01. However, the introduction of a smoking ban last summer, the steep rent charged by the University and the changing demographics of the campus community have pushed the "Plant into the red and made it an unviable business for the SU. The SU is now being forced to decide whether the bar should be subsidized as a service to students or transformed into something different, a decision to look forward to in 2006.

2. After being content to sit on the south side of the North Saskatchewan River since it was founded, the University of Alberta finally took the plunge and made plans to expand across the river. The purchase of the Bay building gave the University a toehold in downtown and provided some desperately needed space that will eventually house the Faculty of Extension and the Research Transition Facility, which commercializes University research. The City of Edmonton and the provincial government each chipped in part of the \$60 million purchase price, hoping not only to ease space shortages on

campus, but to help revive the city's downtown.

3. The purchase of the Bay building would come too late, though, for the primarily graduate residents of Pembina hall who were evicted by the University so the building could be converted into offices. The move was heavily criticized by residents not only because it would eliminate a student presence from a historical building, but also because the University gave notice at the end of the 2005 Winter semester, while students were focused on exams, and made the decision with little notice and consultation. The University maintained that this conversion and hasty action was "critical" and needed to be done to immediately ease the space crunch on campus. However, at the end of 2005, the renovations necessary to make the building suitable for offices still hadn't been completed and Pembina Hall sat empty.

4. The debate and wrangling over a proposal to charge students \$40 a year for a maximum of 30 years to build a new Physical Activities Complex was the Students' Union version of the never-ending story in 2005. A first attempt to get a question on the ballot for the 2005 SU general elections failed after PAC organizers followed



FILE PHOTO: MIKE WEBER

SHOPPING FOR THE BAY The U of A extended campus downtown in 2005.

outdated procedures for the SU's direct democracy process and failed to get the minimum number of signatures required. The question returned to the scene in the fall, as Students' Council was asked to put the PAC proposal on the ballot without requiring organizers to collect signatures. When Council demurred, the petitions process was once again undertaken with plans to ensure the question and issue appears on the ballot for the general election this March.

5. More than a year after students voted to give the SU guidelines for a negotiating a deal for a universal bus pass, the U-Pass issue finally started moving in 2005. After a summer presentation to Students' Council by Edmonton City Council Kim Krushell on the city's stance, the SU and Vice-President (External) Sam Power pushed the issue with the University and the City, expounding upon the benefits for all parties involved and coming one step closer to realization.

## STREETERS

With the start of class now upon us, the new year is in full swing.

What was your favorite moment of 2005?

Kelsey Ayton  
Science IJohn Lovesth  
Science IIIKeiran  
O'Donovan  
Grad StudiesTala Berkes  
Business IV

That's tough. Turning 18. I turned 18 after all my friends did, so I was finally able to do everything they were.

The summer of 2005. I went house boating on Shuswap. It was an amazing experience. I went with friends. The best part was the toga party on the house boat.

My favourite moment of 2005 was probably skiing in Colorado in last winter. It was beautiful powder, sunny weather, and great friends. That's all it took. I was working there last winter, and skied several times, but there was one day in particular that stands out.

1 January 2005, cause Shout Out. Out Out Out was playing a show at Studio E that New Year's, and it was a great dance party. They were playing this New Year's Eve, and I got to start off the year with them and end the year with them; it was perfect.

Compiled and photographed by Robin Collum and James Storrie

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# Top newsmakers on campus deal with new money and growing losses

ROSS PRUSAKOWSKI  
News Staff

1. After more than a decade under former President Rod Fraser, the University of Alberta welcomed its twelfth and first female president, Dr. Indira Samarasekera, on 1 July 2005. Samarasekera has already had a busy six months in office; so far, she's overseen the finalization of the Bay building purchase, pledged to revitalize the arts and humanities on campus and held events to increase her office's interaction with students. If this is to be taken as a sign of how she's going to approach the rest of her term in office, the next four and a half years could be heady times for students and the University.

2. Since he took office on 1 May, it seems that every major issue that has faced the Students' Union in 2005 landed on the desk of Vice-President (Operations and Finance) Jason Tobias. His term began with Students' Council incapable of passing the SU's operating budget because councilors hadn't signed confidentiality agreements. Since then, Tobias has had to grapple with the effects of a smoking ban on the campus bars bottom line and a flood of petition questions and their potential effect on the SU's financial footing. Add to that the minor issue of trying to figure out what to do with the perpetual money loser that is the Powerplant, and Tobias was all over the news in 2005—and maybe learning why he was unopposed when he ran for election.

3. As premier in a province awash with cash and free of debt, Ralph Klein spent 2005 announcing a slew of new spending, and University of Alberta students were minor benefi-



KEEPING UP WITH JONES The SU was beset with petition questions last year.

ciaries. Students received a little bit of tuition relief when Klein kicked off the new year by announcing a tuition rebate that saw the province cover the tuition increase for all students for 2005/06. During the summit on postsecondary education in November, he then extended the pledge to cover the increase slated for next academic year, and his government has promised students a new tuition scheme will be announced in the spring of 2006.

4. After either running for election or running a referendum campaign in a handful of SU elections, Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics student Chris Jones undertook a guerilla war against the SU's direct democracy provisions in 2005. He flooded Students' Council and its committee system with twelve petition questions, including many that were decidedly

bizarre, though some were of a more serious nature. The questions went to Council twice; it tossed them all out the first time, but was ordered by the Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement Board to reconsider them. In the end, five questions were approved and went to petition.

5. From the edge of earth's atmosphere to being named as a prestigious Rhodes Scholar, Jeehan Chowdhury was all over the news in 2005. The MA/PhD student has worked for NASA, taken U of A experiments into zero gravity as part of the European Space Agency's Student Parabolic Flight Campaign, and still managed to find time for the U of A rowing team in 2005. After making news on the University campus, there is little doubt that Chowdhury will be making it again in the near future, though likely upon a bigger stage.

## MPs top Canadian headlines in 2005

From coalitions to crossing the floor, political appointments and financial scandals, newsmakers in Canada are concentrated in the East

CHLOE FIEDO  
Deputy News Editor

1. Though the goals of the NDP are traditionally kept on the back burner in federal politics, Jack Layton played an instrumental role in negotiating the federal budget this year, bringing the goals of his party to the forefront in the House of Commons. After reaching a deal worth \$4.6 billion in extra spending, Layton and the NDPs voted in favour of the budget, keeping the Liberal minority government above water. The NDP's coalition with the Liberals came to an end this November when the first part of the Gomery report was released, confirming the long-held suspicion that members of the Liberal Party had purposely mismanaged taxpayer funds. Layton sided with the Conservatives and the Bloc Québécois to bring down the government, triggering a January election.

2. Belinda Stronach, runner-up in the 2004 leadership race for the Conservative Party of Canada, caused a stir this spring when she crossed the floor to join Paul Martin's minority government. Stronach had been voted in as Conservative MP for the riding of Newmarket-Aurora, just north of Toronto, by a mere 689 votes. While Stephen Harper hoped to defeat the federal budget in May's confidence vote, Stronach was opposed to an

early election. She also disagreed with the Conservative party's stand on same-sex marriage, prompting her to leave the party she was instrumental in forming to join the Liberal ranks. Critics have suggested she was driven by political opportunism when Martin named Stronach human resources minister. She is currently running as a Liberal candidate in the same riding for the January elections.

3. Michèle Jean became Canada's 27th governor general on 27 September, succeeding Adrienne Clarkson. At just 48 years old, the award-winning journalist became one of the youngest governors general ever to serve, the third woman, and the first black person to call Rideau Hall home. Jean was born in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. She fled the oppressive regime of François Duvalier in 1968, settling in Québec with her family. After some controversy labelling Jean as a sympathizer with Québec sovereigntists, Jean said she was "fully committed to Canada." Another controversy over her dual French citizenship became a non-issue when she renounced it two days before taking office.

4. In November, André Boisclair was voted in as the new leader of the sovereigntist Parti Québécois. The campaign, which lasted 149 days, focused on Boisclair, who admitted in

September to using cocaine when he was a PQ cabinet minister in the 1990s. Boisclair, who is openly gay, received 56 503 votes, representing 53.7 per cent support of those who voted, and will follow in the footsteps of Bernard Landry. The leadership race was called after Landry received the support of 76.1 per cent of the party in a June confidence vote—a number he felt was not strong enough to achieve his party's goals. As new leader, Boisclair is expected to put the race for Québec sovereignty in the fast lane and push for another referendum.

5. Conrad Black, who renounced his Canadian citizenship to be inducted into the British House of Lords in 2001, is facing charges that could land him a maximum sentence of 95 years behind bars if found guilty. Though not the first time he has faced legal troubles, this November, the former newspaper tycoon was charged by the US Attorney's Office in Chicago with eight counts of mail fraud and wire fraud relating to the alleged diversion of millions from Hollinger International. Lord Black pleaded not guilty and was released after posting a \$20 million US bond. In December, prosecutors laid four more criminal charges against him, including racketeering, obstruction of justice and money laundering. His trial is set for 5 March, 2007.

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# Troubled Liberals and same-sex marriage top Canada's news in 2005

With the release of the Gomery report, the minority government came under fire and fell before the year was up. But not before passing controversial Bill 38-C that redefined the definition of marriage and caused outrage in the Conservative Party

CHLOÉ FÉDIO  
Deputy News Editor

1. On 28 June, a bill to legalize same-sex marriage passed in the House of Commons by a margin of 158-133. Though most Conservative MPs and a large minority of Liberals were opposed to the initiative, most Liberals, the NDP and the Bloc Québécois voted in favour of the bill. Bill C-38 became law less than a month later, on July 20, 2005, making Canada the fourth country in the world, behind the Netherlands, Belgium and Spain, to legalize same-sex marriage. The first same-sex marriage license in Alberta was issued on the same day. However, Stephen Harper has indicated that if the Conservatives win power in the upcoming election, he will re-examine the legislation and hold a free vote on the issue.

2. After almost two years of investigation, Justice John Gomery released the first of his two-part report on the sponsorship program and laid blame for the flawed program with the government of former Prime Minister Jean Chrétien. The report cleared current Prime Minister Paul Martin of blame in the mismanagement of the \$332 million program, but the Martin government came under fire from all three opposition leaders, who agreed that the Liberal party had grown complacent after years of power and is riddled with corruption. The second part of the report, which is scheduled to come out on 1 February, will outline ways to avoid such scandals in the future. Former Prime Minister

Jean Chrétien filed a legal challenge of Gomery's report on 30 November, arguing that the findings aren't supported by the evidence.

3. Though Martin promised to call an election within 30 days after the second part of the Gomery report was delivered, a push to dissolve the government before Christmas proved successful. On 28 November, the three opposition leaders voted against the Liberal minority government in a non-confidence motion, effectively defeating the struggling government and triggering a January election. Current polls suggest that there will be another minority government as the Liberals and Conservatives have been neck-and-neck, though a Strategic Counsel poll released Sunday showed the Tories eight points ahead.

4. After 15 months of negotiations with the Canadian Media Guild, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation locked out 5500 of its unionized employees on 15 August. The CBC wanted more flexibility to hire contract and part-time employees, something the CMG argued was a danger to job security for full-time staff. During the lockout, regular television and radio services were cancelled and replaced with repeated and imported programming and internet resources were minimal. The seven-week labour dispute was ended when 88.4 per cent of CBC employees voted in favour of ratifying a deal that capped contract workers at 9.5 per cent of the full-time work force and allowed for wage hikes



WATCHING RERUNS CBC locked out its unionized workers for seven weeks, leaving some Canadians without news.

of 12.6 per cent over the life of the contract through to 31 March, 2009.

5. On 22 July, the National Hockey League ended the lockout that resulted in the cancellation of what would have been the NHL's 88th season. The collective bargaining agreement that ended the lockout was seen as a major

victory for team owners over the NHL Players' Association; it instituted a salary cap in an effort to restrain costs and rein in what owners said had been massive losses in the past, a move that players said they would never accept. The league settled on a lottery system to determine the order of the 2005 entry draft as they restarted,

and the first pick was assigned to the Pittsburgh Penguins, who selected 18-year-old phenom Sidney Crosby. The NHL also instituted a slate of rule changes designed to make the game more exciting, added shootouts to break regular season ties, and adjusted the schedule so teams play mostly within their own conference.



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## Old disputes and unexpected explosions dominate international headlines in 2005

NATALIE CLIMENHAGA  
News Staff

1. On 7 July, the day after London was chosen to host the 2012 Summer Olympics, and on the first full day of the UK's hosting of the 31st G8 summit, Londoners went about battling the everyday morning rush on their way to work when the deadliest attack in Britain since the Second World War took place. Suicide bombers detonated bombs in three crowded subway trains and aboard one city bus in London, killing 52 people, including the bombers, and injuring 700. While the terrorist organization al-Qaeda claimed responsibility for the attacks, the discovery that the suicide bombers had grown up in Britain fueled ongoing debate over the success of assimilating second- and third-generation European Muslim immigrants.

2. After 38 years of occupation, Israel officially began its historic pullout from the Gaza Strip at the stroke of midnight on 14 August. The withdrawal was part of Israel's "disengagement" plan, and while most residents left peacefully in the weeks prior to the withdrawal, Israeli forces had to forcefully remove protesters who had refused

to leave the settlement. The withdrawal was hoped to provide a stepping stone on the road to paving a path towards peace between Israelis and Palestinians, but with the fragility of Israeli leader Ariel Sharon's health, there is no guarantee that a peaceful resolution will be reached anytime soon.

3. For the first time in half a century, Iraqis were able to cast ballots in a free election on 30 January 2005. Iraqi citizens elected a transitional National Assembly amid fear of attacks and vocal threats of violence. The election was hailed by US officials as a victory towards the formation of a permanent stable democratic government in Iraq. The elections, however, have not seemed to bring stability to the region, as war rages on and the death toll continues to climb.

4. Although the French police denied the claims, locals of the Paris suburb of Clichy professed that Ziyed Benna, 17, and Bouma Traore, 15, wouldn't have climbed into an electrical substation on 27 October and subsequently died had they not been trying to avoid the police. And when the news of the deaths of the young men spread throughout France's African and Arab communities, riots erupted through-

out the ghettos surrounding France's large cities, where the majority of the dissatisfied immigrants reside. Despite efforts by French police to control the rioting, the French cabinet authorized a range of emergency powers on 8 November in hopes of settling the growing unrest after conventional methods did nothing to curb the anger and determination of the rioters. These gave local authorities the power to impose curfews and restrict people's movements as they saw fit, and it was the first time the 1955 law has been implemented in mainland France. The violence eventually subsided, but social tensions between largely unassimilated French immigrants and the native French remain.

5. On 8 October a deadly earthquake measuring 7.6 on the Richter scale struck Pakistan and other parts of South Asia. Tens of thousands of people were left injured and more than 70 000 people are estimated to have died, mostly in Pakistan-administered Kashmir. With the quake occurring just before winter, the cold weather both increased the urgency of aid and made it more difficult to deliver. Up to three million people may have been left homeless in the quake's aftermath.

## Mother nature and controversial int'l politicians make news happen in 2005

NATALIE CLIMENHAGA  
News Staff

1. Hurricanes, and one in particular, dominated the headlines as never before in 2005. Hurricane Katrina made landfall east of New Orleans on 29 August and left in her wake devastating destruction never before seen in the southern United States. Images of thousands of displaced people, mostly lower-class blacks, were replayed on television while relief to the regions was criticized as slow, inefficient and unorganized. The costs of rebuilding from Hurricane Katrina continue to mount, but she wasn't the only storm making waves in 2005. Scientist have called it the busiest hurricane season on record with over 26 named storms, surpassing the previous record of 21 in 1933. Advocates against global warming have used the record as evidence of the devastating and dangerous effects of greenhouse gas emissions.

2. On 2 April, after serving 26 years as the leader of the world's one billion Catholics, Pope John Paul II died at the age of 84. In the days and weeks that followed, Catholics and non-Catholics from around the world waited for hours in endless lines to pay tribute to the beloved pontiff. And after several weeks had passed, Joseph Ratzinger of Germany was elected by the cardinals in a formal conclave as the 265th pontiff. Taking the name Pope Benedict XVI, he accepted the task of filling the shoes of one of the most popular popes the Vatican has known.

3. Love him or hate him, George W. Bush is definitely the most internationally talked-about politician, and his War on Terror and the ongoing American military presence in Iraq continue to garner much media attention. After winning re-election, he was sworn into his second term as President of the United States on 20 January. Despite vocal criticism from



**ADDICTED TO APPLE** 2005 a year for technology as the iPod craze exploded.

his opponents, Bush has sworn to follow through on his fight against terrorism and to not withdraw US troops from Iraq prematurely. In a region where triumphs and setbacks go hand in hand, on 26 October the US death toll in Iraq reached a milestone: 2000 as Iraqi election officials announced that the country's draft constitution had won approval in a nationwide referendum.

4. As the winner of what his critics called a questionable election, new Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has certainly made no attempt to shy away from the limelight. Ahmadinejad has said he will continue with Iran's nuclear program, which Western countries have suspected to be a front hiding efforts to build atomic bombs despite being assured otherwise. He also raised outspoken international criticism when he called the Holocaust a "myth" and stated Israel must be "wiped off the map." The hard-line leader has revived extreme cultural

decrees dating from the beginning of the 1979 Islamic Revolution and banned Western music from Iranian radio and TV stations. And according to a Tehran-based newspaper, Ahmadinejad's word on economic policy couldn't be more provocative, as he is reported to have said, "If we were permitted to hang two or three persons, the problems with the stock exchange would be solved forever." This is a man we will likely hear more about in 2006.

5. You may not have heard Steve Jobs' name before, but the products of his success are everywhere. As the CEO of Apple and Pixar, Jobs is the brainchild behind the latest and best in modern technology and animation. You can thank Jobs for the iTunes craze and those beloved portable digital music players. More than 18 million iPods were sold in 2005, and Apple's stock price doubled to an all-time high. This man's imagination has driven the evolution of technology.

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## Alberta's top centennial celebrations

JAKE TROUGHTON  
Senior News Editor

2005, as you may have heard, was Alberta's Centennial, and the provincial government engaged in a plethora of programs and events to celebrate. Here are some of our favourites.

1. Centennial celebrations were given a royal air in May as Her Majesty the Queen visited the province as part of the party. Her Majesty was the star attraction in the Centennial Kick-off Party at Commonwealth Stadium, where over 1500 Alberta dancers and singers were set to perform. Unfortunately, rain forced the program to be curtailed somewhat, but thousands of hardy admirers still braved the weather to see Her Majesty. Other highlights of the royal visit included the renaming of the Provincial Museum of the Royal Alberta Museum, and the renaming of Highway 2 between Edmonton and Calgary to the Queen Elizabeth II Highway.

2. A party isn't really a party unless there are fireworks, and Alberta's birthday bash had plenty. On 1 September, 100 years to the day after the founding of the province, Premier Ralph Klein pressed a button in Calgary to launch a simultaneous ten-city fireworks display. In all, 40 000 fireworks shots were fired (by comparison, a typical Canada Day fireworks display in Edmonton has around 2000 shots). The display was expected to be seen from space, but the only satellite that was in position was being used by the American military to track Hurricane Katrina; fortunately, this didn't spoil the party.

3. 2005 was Saskatchewan's centennial too—the two provinces were created on the same day, in fact—and in the spirit of joint celebration, the provinces sponsored the Centennial Gridiron Challenge, a two-game total-points series between the Edmonton Eskimos and Saskatchewan Roughriders coinciding with their two regular-season CFL meetings. The Roughriders won the first game 37–36 in Regina in September, but the Eskimos responded a month later with a 19–18 win, ending the series in a 55–55 tie and leaving unsettled the question of, uh, which province is oldest.

4. Celebrations weren't limited to Alberta; the Alberta Centennial Scholarship, announced in November, will provide 325 scholarships to postsecondary students in every



FILE ILLUSTRATION: MIKE KENDRICK

DEBT FREE AT 100 Alberta celebrates her centennial without pinching any pennies thank to a massive surplus.

province and territory. Part centennial celebration and part goodwill gesture to other, less oil-revenue-flooded areas of the country, the program will provide each recipient with \$2005, leading students across the country to wish that our calendar had started counting a lot sooner.

5. The first centennial project announced in January may prove to be the longest-lasting: the Alberta Centennial Education Savings Plan will provide \$500 towards a Registered Education Savings Plan for all children born in the province in 2005 and beyond. It also provides for supplementary \$100 bursaries when those kids turn eight, eleven and 14. After the Centennial year proved prosperous for government coffers, plans were announced in September to extend the supplementary bursaries to all children at those three birthdays, even if they were born before Alberta turned 100.



## VOTE ELECTION 2006

### Edmonton - Strathcona Candidates' Forum

January 11, 2006

5:30 PM (Doors open at 5:00 PM)

Myer Horowitz Theatre, SUB

Dave Dowling (Marijuana Party)

Linda Duncan (New Democratic Party)

Mike Fedeyko (Progressive Canadian Party)

Andy Hladyshevsky (Liberal Party)

Kevan Hunter (Marxist-Leninist Party)

Rahim Jaffer (Conservative Party)

Cameron Wakefield (Green Party)

[www.su.ualberta.ca/advocacy](http://www.su.ualberta.ca/advocacy)



## BEST OF THE CAMPUS CRIME BEAT

Compiled by Amanda Ash

### GET AROUND!

Around 4pm on 21 February, members of Campus 5-0 were shocked to stumble upon a female student giving a handjob to her male peer on the couches in the Central Academic Building. The couple, who were getting sexy near the Tim Hortons, were given stern warnings and told to seek a more suitable venue.

### TOPLESS BRIGADE

At 1am on 24 February, student auxiliary officers on patrol in HUB Mall observed a group of females running topless down the hall. Once stopped, the topless ladies were identified as students and told to return to their HUB suites immediately.

### BUT MY PANTS WERE CHAFFING ME!

On 20 March, 5-0 received a phone call from a HUB Mall resident just before 1am who reported that a creeper had followed her into the laundry area and performed his version of a Levi's commercial, stripping down to his underwear while washing his only pair of jeans. The non-affiliated male attempted to hide his identity by wearing sunglasses and a black toque. When constables arrived and started to question him, they noticed his accent and requested a US criminal records check. The male had warrants from Orange County Sheriff's Office in southern California. He was turned over to the Edmonton Police Services, who in turn passed him on to immigration for deportation.

### PANTS, LIKE MONEY, ARE EASY TO LOSE

On Friday, 1 April at 4:23am, Campus

5-0 received a report of a half-naked man sleeping on the couches in the Students' Union Building. 5-0 identified him as a non-affiliated male when they discovered him passed out without any pants or underwear. The male was intoxicated and argumentative and had four beers in a brown paper bag near the couch. He was wanted to have a criminal record.

### WANNABEHEROES

On Friday, 29 July at about 3:30pm, a staff member on campus reported that she was approached by two suspicious males at the west loading dock of the Biological Sciences building who were looking for a professor who deals with uranium. They told her that this was "serious business" and that a certain group was "bringing uranium from planet Earth." The men had travelled to the U of A from out of town because of an online article about uranium dumping in Iraq and wanted to enlist the assistance of academics to fight this "act of wrongfulness." The men were fearful of government repercussions and asserted that their work was confidential.

Men meeting the same description also visited the Gateway offices, where they demanded that the photo editor photocopy some very important documents. After trying to convince them that he did not know how to use the photocopying machine, copies were eventually made and the uranium-seekers left.

### WILL YOU TAKE MY PICTURE?

On Friday, 2 September at 2:53pm, a male was reportedly taking digital pictures of two females sitting in the SUB food court. The man, about 28-years-old with darker skin and wearing a green sweater and jeans, was observed by a third female who reported the activity to Campus Security. The third female then alerted the two unaware ladies of the situation, and proceeded to confront the male. The suspect then hastily exited the west doors of SUB located

near the main floor bookstore area.

### SOMETHING FISHY AT THE POND

On Thursday, 15 September at about 11:45pm, Campus 5-0 received a call that someone had poured bubble bath into the fish pond outside of SUB. Members of the Biology department, arrived on the scene and proceeded to evacuate the fish. Unfortunately, 12 (expensive) coi perished in the incident. The fish-killer remains at large.

### HYPNOTIC PSYCHOTIC

At around 12:38am on Friday, 23 September, a suspicious male character with a history of trespassing was seen in the Heritage Medical Research building. The trespasser claimed he was under brain control, and was searching for the persons responsible for hypnotizing him and his girlfriend. The alleged brainwash victim was sporting a Harley Davidson t-shirt and wearing a large and noticeable gold ring. He left campus without incident.

### SEXY PARTY PLANNERS

On Sunday, 25 September at around 2:34pm, a HUB tenant reported to Campus Security that two males, last seen near the Fine Arts building, had shoplifted a handful of condoms. The libidinous males were described as being between 15 and 17 years of age. Officers checked the area, and although one male was questioned near the LRT tracks, the two culprits were not located.

### MEDICAL MARIJUANA?

On Sunday, 20 November, Campus 5-0 constables were patrolling 112 Street when they were confronted with an odd sight: a man, wearing nothing but his hospital gown, was puffing on a marijuana cigarette while dragging his IV apparatus along the sidewalk. The man had no University affiliation and was escorted back inside the hospital with no charges.

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## Handgun rhetoric may decide the election

IF YOU MANAGED TO PRY YOURSELF AWAY from the cycle of sleeping and eating that more than likely enveloped your Christmas break, you would likely notice the Canadian news media focused on two issues: elections and guns.

In the past year, incidents of gun-related violence—and deaths—have skyrocketed. Thirteen of Edmonton's 37 murders in 2005 were caused by guns, and in Toronto—the location of a highly publicized Boxing Day shooting of a 15-year-old girl—shooting deaths have jumped from 27 in 2004 to a record 52 lives lost last year. Considering that that number was under 15 only ten years ago, the statistics are startling.

With the rash of gun violence coming to a climax in the middle of a federal election campaign, it comes as little surprise that the issue has become the focus of talking points and a subject of campaign promises across the political board. None of the parties can ignore it, but no one seems quite sure what to do about it, either. The only thing they do seem to know is that if they're not talking about it, they're falling behind.

The Liberals, reaffirming an earlier campaign promise, vowed to make handguns illegal in Canada. The Tories, on the other hand, claimed that they would crack down on illegal handguns being brought across the border from the United States. The NDP championed improved social programs as the solution to the problem. None of them are right, but then, none of them are wrong, either.

This situation is unfortunately a glowing example of the state of Canadian politics. Even with two solid years of focus on the Liberals and AdScam, the Tories have only managed to bring themselves neck and neck with the Greens, an unimpressive feat given that the Liberals has been pretty much on the defensive since 2004.

The reason for this is that this election has been about who you shouldn't vote for, rather than who would actually serve Canada best. And, once you've pandered to the segment of the public who are basing their vote on the corruption of the Liberals, it comes down to the issues, even if no one is really addressing them. None of the proposed solutions to Canadian gun violence is really a solution. Guns will still come over the border even if they're made illegal in Canada, and tighter borders won't help if firearm laws in this country aren't tightened.

When it comes down to it, people don't care about money and scandal and corruption. Those things get them mad, but to most, it's just business as usual. A teen girl getting killed on a street while shopping, however, is what will make people want to vote for a party, whether or not their "solution" is really any sort of solution at all.

What this election needs is substance over smear. A few ideas that focus on fixing the problem, rather than appealing to a party's base, is what will both win the election and save lives.

MIKE LAROCQUE  
Editorial Contributor

## Where's the web board?

LAST APRIL, JUST BEFORE SU Executive turnover, the 2004/05 Executive decided it would be in the best interests of the SU to shut down their web board service. It was a somewhat-controversial move, protested by many who frequented the web board; that said, there were very legitimate concerns, namely regarding libel and anonymous attacks, that needed dealing with.

Our new Executive promised to examine these concerns and provide us with a new web board.

By October, when October came and went, they promised it would be in up in a few more weeks. Two months later, the web board is still yet to be found. I can understand legitimate concerns, but hey SU, if you really don't want to bring it back up, why not just say so in the first place?

DAVID BERRY  
Managing Editor



## LETTERS

### Poor customer service burying the 'Plant'

It comes as no surprise that the 'Plant' has been operating at a loss for yet another year (Re: "Powerplant's future cloudy as losses mount," 1 December). Despite all the time and effort gone into researching what exactly is going wrong, those involved are ignoring a key component of any successful business—the customer. For those who have ever been to the 'Plant' I'm stating the obvious: customer service ranges from bad to downright terrible.

Ask any successful restaurant operator and they'll tell you it's not acceptable to wait fifteen minutes for the waitress to take your drink order. It's also unacceptable for that drink to take another fifteen minutes to reach your table, and once it does arrive, to never be asked during your entire visit if you'd like a refill. A successful restaurant owner would also tell you that food shouldn't take any longer than necessary to reach your table, especially if there are only two people in your party. Taking longer than half an hour to receive two plates of food in a near empty restaurant is too long, especially if your plates contain traces of food that weren't mentioned on the solid menu (who hasn't received a "complimentary" french-fry in their salad, wings, pasta, etc.). Also, having to literally stand up from your table and chase down your waitress to pay your bill so you can finally leave is definitely unacceptable.

A successful business owner would also tell you that never, under any circumstance, is the customer wrong, especially when the customer is actually right. To be told outright by your waitress that you didn't order something, only to look at her notepad and see that you in fact did is beyond unacceptable.

How is the 'Plant' supposed to establish a customer base, when positive dining experiences are so rare? If the 'Plant' served good food at a fair price, with actual service, I would say the press space and attention given to this establishment would be warranted. But unless this business cleans up its act and starts being held accountable to its patrons, I see the Powerplant going belly up in the near future.

IAN GAUTHIER  
Arts I

### Gateway comics offensive, not funny

This year I have been reading the Gateway pretty regularly. And so far I have usually enjoyed the articles in (your feature for Halloween was a very well-done piece. You would be surprised how many people don't that know how to defend themselves from zombies. Out of most of my friends I think I'm the only one ready for a zombie attack. They were too blinded by the conspiracy to actually prepare. So I'll have to watch out for them, but kudos to the authors of that article!).

Anyways, up until the last pages of the Gateway I think that it's a very decent newspaper. The problem comes when I reach the so-called comics section. Every single time there is at least one comic that is either gross or in very bad taste. I can provide so many examples but so far the main culprits are: *Mich Mich* and the *Blowie Show*.

I haven't seen one of these comics that isn't gross or in bad taste (usually a combination of the two). A recent *Blowie Show* (29 November, which was in French for some odd reason) was badly translated (or used slang I have never heard of) and incredibly disturbing on very many levels. Yes, I know I'm conservative here, but this has crossed the line.

I can't see how this comic would appeal to anyone. It wouldn't be as

bad if these comics hadn't consistently been this way, but every time they're printed they're disgusting. I don't mind if the comics are funny—the authors are students, I understand that they do not have all day to find a punch line—but if they're consistently bad would you please not print them. A blank spot would be better than those "comics."

CHRIS STREET  
Engineering II

### Some helpful voting advice for those away from home

To all my peers living away from their ridings during the federal election: get off your bums and vote! Actually, getting up off your bum more than usual may not even be necessary. So, to help you all vote, and so I don't have to hear you complain later, here's Voting by Mail:

- 1) You'll need a pen (blue or black).
- 2) Go to [http://www.elections.ca/ele/39gelec/78610/form\\_e.pdf](http://www.elections.ca/ele/39gelec/78610/form_e.pdf) OR go to [www.elections.ca](http://www.elections.ca) and follow the "I'm Filling My Vote!" instructions.
- 3) Print the form.
- 4) Fill out the form. It includes such mind bending questions as "Family Name" and "Mailing address where you want the ballot to be sent."
- 5) Photocopy your driver's licence or passport.
- 6) Mail or fax the whole shebang to Elections Canada using the info on the second page of the form.
- 7) Wait patiently for your ballot to appear.
- 8) Fill out the ballot.
- 9) Mail the ballot.
- 10) Yay! You have now participated in Canadian democracy, and done your part to keep voter turnout here higher than in the US.

MARION KILGOUR  
Engineering III

### Smokes and VLTs could save the PowerPlant

It seems ridiculous that the PowerPlant is losing money. It's one of the few places on campus that I feel comfortable going and sitting to study and I would definitely hate to see the end of our beloved 'Plant. Now it's tough to be the one who comes out and says it, but I think the solution to the Powerplant's money problem could be solved easier than anyone realizes or at least will admit: make it an indoor smoking establishment.

It should probably be double-checked on, but as far as I know it was the SU that decided that the 'Plant would become non-smoking like the rest of the city. However this really doesn't have to be as the U of A doesn't have to abide by city-by-laws. The Powerplant could open its doors to not only the entire remaining smoking populace at the U of A (don't kid yourself; there's still enough of us on campus alone to fill the 'Plant), but also to the city. Can you imagine the kind of income that, that place could generate if it was the only indoor smoking bar in all of Edmonton? Add a few VLTs and we're talking a gold rush, here.

I say let's push aside the bias and save the 'Plant.

LACEY GRUM  
Arts II

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to [opinion@gateway.alberta.ca](mailto:opinion@gateway.alberta.ca).

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous or otherwise hateful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the name, student identification number, program and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication.



PHOTOILLUSTRATION: JAMES LORIE

THEY SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN DATING IN THE FIRST PLACE The Internet is far more satisfying than sexual relations.

## The Internet is the new Dating in 2006

JAMES  
STORRIE

I was mulling over a delicious home-cooked meal and a rousing game of *World of Warcraft* over the new 2006 weekend when things got complicated. Having spent the night slaughtering endless hordes of relatively peaceful owl-bear-men for their valuable tail feathers, my noble dwarven paladin found his pace slowed as his group approached the foreboding troll temple. Something was amiss in 206.

A cursory examination of the party chat laid bare the issue: it was a girl. Don't get me wrong, this isn't a sexist "vagas make you bad at video games" crack; the six or seven women out there who actually play video games are generally pretty good, and I've never been one to make broad generalizations. This is 2006, after all. No, the issue was that she was being helped through the game by her boyfriend. This guy—this elf warrior guy—he was dating someone and showing her through this video game. Am I the only one who sees something horrifically wrong with this situation?

Normally I'm pretty easy on people and don't like to rant so much, but this really rubbed me the wrong way. I think you can see where I'm going, here. This is 2006! Why would anyone with the Internet and video games be wasting their time dating?

Sure, in the past months we have printed a wealth of dating advice and dating-related rants, but those were always geared at a lower common denominator, a demographic of people with no Internet and no computer skills. I can see how the lowest of the Whyte Ave-trawling, collar-popping Lister trash might have nothing better to do than date; that's fair. Most of you, however, should be above this. This isn't the Age of Cholera; this is 2006! Dating is obsolete!

**A cursory examination of the party chat laid bare the issue: it was a girl. Don't get me wrong, this isn't a sexist "vagas make you bad at video games" crack; the six or seven women out there who actually play video games are generally pretty good, and I've never been one to make broad generalizations**

Even if we discount the aforementioned video games—as anyone who has adventured with my hearty champion, Sir Iscariot, is probably too busy levelling up to read this anyway—not

dating still wipes the floor with dating. Why buy a fancy dinner for two when that same money could buy you cigarettes for a week? Why spend the night at some plebeian girl-meets-boy flick when you could just go to bed three hours early? There are 300 or so prime days of 2006 coming up. Why resolve to ask out that cute girl you see on the way to class, in 2006, when she's probably already seeing someone, that ice-hearted bitch?

Even the primary objective of dating, sex (or the secondary objective, if you are courting for Canadian citizenship) pales in comparison to the pleasures of our ultra-modern era. Don't blame the hoop if you can't play ball, you say? Well I'll tell you right now, these are no sour grapes. My ball-handling skills are not the issue here. If they even were, this discussion would be moot; the last time I engaged in physical relations, it spanned forty-seven days and six dimensions. This is coming straight from the Peter Jackson of epic three-hour intercourse trilogies: the best sex in the galaxy—and I am 100 per cent the person to know—is nothing compared to a good cup of coffee and a delightful afternoon of Internet. Internet: the sport of kings and ambrosia of post-industrial gods.

If there is any one thing I would communicate to you in 2006, it is that dating is for chumps. Make 2006 count! Make 2006 the year of dumping your partners or otherwise abandoning all romantic intentions, and you won't regret it. Resolve along with me: no dates for me in the 2k's plus three! And for God's sake, don't log them into Warcraft.

**They're just friends.**

Gateway Opinion. Meetings Thursdays at 4 in SUB 3-04.

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## Words from a fat red-head



BETH  
STORHEIM

The headline of this article may be shocking to some of you. Even I'm surprised by the word "fat," because it's not an adjective I normally like to use in describing myself. But it's true. It wouldn't be right to lie to you, and say that I'm happy in my body, or that I love myself just the way I am. I must say that I really don't like my body, or at least most of it. You might say I even loathe it. And I don't think I'm alone in this respect.

I won't bore you with some sob story about how hard it is being me, because it's pretty much the same story that has already been told. If you want to know what it's like to be fat, you can watch Oprah, and listen to some other fat lady's tale of woe. Basically, I've been fat since I was about six years old. I sometimes eat a bit too much, though my diet is basically the same as that of any average North American. I don't really exercise at all, because I'm lazy. Ta-da! There it is, and that's all. Or is that all?

Well, no, of course not. I know very well there's much more to me than merely the state of my body's appearance. I'm also a soft-spoken, intelligent young woman in my fourth year of studies in English. I have curly, red hair, a cute pixie nose (NOT a piggy nose!), and I can walk, jump, feign a two-step, and make horrible puns in a flash. But any attempt I make to ignore my girth, my acne, or my frumpish hair fails every time I look in the mirror. One simply cannot ignore one's own body image.

As many people as there are in the world who think highly of their own reflections, it appears that there are many, many more people who have extraordinarily low opinions of their bodies. And for so many women, low self-esteem is almost a way of life. There's hardly

any small girl or woman I've met in my life who thought very highly of their body or appearance. According to the Social Issues Research Centre, one American survey found that "81 per cent of ten-year-old girls had already dieted at least once." And in other studies done in Japan, a land often associated with both healthy foods and sumo wrestling, it was found that 41 per cent of elementary school girls—some of who were as young as six—thought themselves to be too fat.

Things only get worse for self-esteem when puberty comes along, bearing gifts of pubic hair, breasts, and (generally) increased fat build-up in the waist and legs, thereby shaping the preteen into something other than the "ideal" thin, thin model-woman. Another study showed that among women over the age of 18 who looked at their reflections, at least 80 per cent were unhappy with what they saw. These stats make me sad, because even if the numbers aren't 100 per cent accurate, they are still true, and seemingly inevitable in this day and age.

I don't have a lot of sad, shocking information to offer on low self-esteem in men because most sites I found either ignored such an issue, or attributed it mainly to insecurities related to pre-pubesence, physical deficiencies (perceived or real, such as lack of musculature or impotence), or aging (hence the famous "mid-life crisis"). Yes, women's lack of self-esteem can perhaps have a better chance of developing into a dangerous illness such as anorexia or bulimia than a man's lack of self-esteem, but both men and women can suffer depression, and such depression, if long-sustained, can lead to suicide. My point is that poor body image and severe lack of self-esteem is common to people of any gender, not just one. My other point is that this widespread lack of love for one's own body must stop. But how?

The answer is simple: love yourself, and love everyone else. It's a lesson common to most religions, and is simple enough to follow, even if one is not religious at all. Alright, it's not simple at all, in the face of lies, hatred and bigotry. But it's worth a try.



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# Men should be the ones making the dough



PHIL  
HEAD

The usually mundane world of cooking recently gathered a great deal of controversy and media attention thanks to the following statement from Chef Gordon Ramsay: "There are huge numbers of young women out there who know how to mix cocktails but can't cook to save their lives, whereas men are finding their way into the kitchen in ever-growing numbers."

While I'm not sure about the accuracy of the first part of the above statement, I feel it would be a positive thing were the second indeed to prove true. I consider myself to be a competent—although perhaps not gourmet—cook, and actually view the process as both fun and relaxing. Plus all the money I save by not eating out warms my cheap, penny-pinching heart (and the food is healthier as well).

Gays, if you aren't cooking for yourself already, why not? Cooking is empowering. No longer do you have to eat things that you don't like just because there's nothing else prepared; simply make something that you do enjoy. Don't like pickles on your

hamburger? Don't send it back; just don't put them on in the first place.

Take pride in your culinary attempts. Even if all you know how to do is throw frozen perogies into boiling water, you've made a meal. Forget being the breadwinner, it's time men became the bread makers.

I even took home economics in high school rather than more traditionally male options such as shop. I may not be able to fix my bicycle or build a cabinet, but unlike one of my older relatives (who shall remain nameless), I know not to let green hotdogs that have been sitting forgotten in a backpack for a month. Furthermore, should I also be forced to eat mice, I will at least know how to properly season them.

Personally, I think that more people of both genders should take more non-traditional courses, as they can help people to become well-rounded intellectually. Also, the skills you learn are often transferable to other more traditional areas of studies. Case in point: recently, upon tasting some of my homemade chocolate chip cookies, a fellow co-op student exclaimed, "These are great! What the hell are you doing in Science?" What she failed to realize is that the skills involved in cooking are identical to those required in a science lab; for instance, in a recent fermentation lab, we made our own beer and wine, and in microbiology we made sauerkraut.

Although the terminology may differ, the concepts are the same, the only difference being that the stuff you make in the lab is more likely to result in a trip to the hospital for a stomach pumping should you eat it.

Time management, multitasking, following a protocol, measurements, keeping a workplace tidy, finishing on time, experimental parameters—how long I bake my cookies for!—these are all valuable skills for both benchtop and countertop chemistry. The only difference between a cook and a scientist is that the scientist isn't content to know that adding yeast to bread makes it rise, but wishes to discover why it does.

So girls, if a male science student ever claims to be a horrible cook, really they're just horribly lazy and you should throw their lying ass back into the kitchen. Or get them to do the dishes, another skill you need in the lab.

Besides, what man wants to be the one who brings the boring bakery-bought cake to potlucks, when instead you can wow them with your homemade cherries jubilee. And even if your experiment fails like that of my unnamed relative (his cherries jubilee ended up being "flaming blueberries over porridge" and set the Tupperware serving dishes on fire), you can proudly sing, "I did it my way," as you try to drown out the noise from the smoke detector.

# Television's not so bad if you actually watch it



MAUREEN  
BRINKER

Television has provided me with a rich assortment of magical memories. This voyeuristic realm has given me a peep into worlds unknown, and afforded me surprising perspective on the world of everyday culture. Those of you who accuse me of watching too much TV need to take a look around; TV is as much a part of culture as this newspaper: you're holding—get over it. There's a lot of crap in newspapers, too.

To the average viewer, the Tube is an endless wave of stimulation that can be controlled by the mere touch of a finger. But, as brain cells fire and images are processed, you just may find that if you pay attention, you could learn a thing or two about what it is to be a part of the spinning planet. We, after all, created TV: it's as much an expression of ourselves as the culture we've branded our own. Many of you academic types buried in your books forget the value of pop culture. As much as you may not want to believe it, TV is a mirror for our ugly-lookin' planet, prettied up like a 50-year-old hooker. It's fairly nasty for the most part, but if you pay attention, you can see it knows a thing or two.

In the Baby Boom years, television consisted of Ma, Pa and their two adoring kids, Dick and Jane. Since family was the central focus of a societal baby factory, this should be no surprise. The '70s, however, was no family-based decade. On the contrary, it saw the advancement of such immoral things as porn and women in the workforce. It was in this era that Jack Tripper & Co converged on TV to extend the range of cultural norms by placing two bachelorettes and a bachelor in Apartment 201. Three's Company explored issues like homosexuality and pre-marital sex, all elev-

erly presented from the point of view of two landlords, the Ropers, acting as the old couple trying to understand these new lifestyles. The cultural parallels are obvious. Clearly, TV is not produced inside a cultural vacuum.

Besides the brilliant comedic talents of John Ritter and Suzanne Somers, television has a lot to offer. I can spend endless hours watching the History Channel, A&E or Discovery, and learn volumes on Canadian military history, mating practices of Andean alpacas or the Menendez brothers. But most of this I can figure out with a simple Google search or a trip to the library. Watching hours of fluff on major TV networks, however, provides an education academics don't write about: an endless cultural exposé providing enlightening lessons and observations on society. If you pay attention, you'll see just how tainted TV is with cultural norms. For example, the computer/electronics and military expert in *Lost* is a Middle Easterner

with a past in terrorism. Not much of a surprise with the modern fear of the Middle Eastern terrorist. In *Star Trek*, the brutish, violent, uncivilized Klingon race, represented by Worf, is dark skinned, whereas the logical, scientific, civilized Vulcan, embodied by Spock, is white. While I refuse to proclaim myself a Trekkie, for a show based in the future, it has fascinating commentary on the modern world. Pay attention to more than just the gadgets, cheese and quality acting, and you too will be enlightened.

So, while I accept that yes, there is even crap on TV, I also believe that even the crap can have things to offer. TV is an object of our culture and when viewed as such, it's a fascinating device that says volumes about who we are. While I sift through the crap, I refuse to believe that I'm watching too much TV. I am merely educating myself on pop culture, a culture that if, upon taking a look around, you'll notice is taking over.

this one unnamed staff member, "but I left my coat in my office on the third floor. Could you let me up?"

"No. You have your own keys."

"Well, I have keys to the office, but not to the elevator. If you can just open the floor I can do the rest."

"No."

"But it's really cold out, and I have to walk home. I need my coat."

"No. Come back on Monday."

While I can appreciate that the 30 seconds and 50 steps required to open the elevator would have seriously compromised his sweeping efforts, he really didn't need to look so pleased about it.

So get into the sack, dick. And wear it home when I'm done.

TIM PEPIN

THE BURLAP  
SACK

For reasons that will soon become clear, this beating is delivered at great risk to myself, or at least to my access to the third floor. This particular sack appears to be spiteful.

At the end of the Gateway's annual Christmas party, I left RATT to go home. Without thinking, I went to the ground floor, forgetting that, because we all just can't get enough of that sweet, sweet Gateway, I had been in the office earlier, and had forgotten my coat. It was cold outside.

"No problem," I thought, "I'll just ask a member of SUB's building services staff to open up the third floor." We often do this, and it's never been a problem. They almost seem happy to do it.

"Hey, sorry to bother you," I said to

The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is ridiculed in print.

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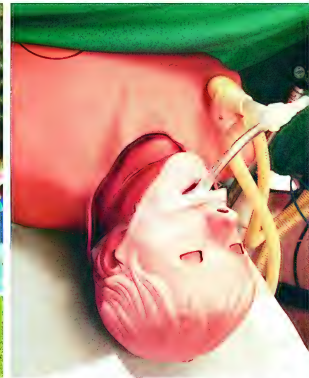
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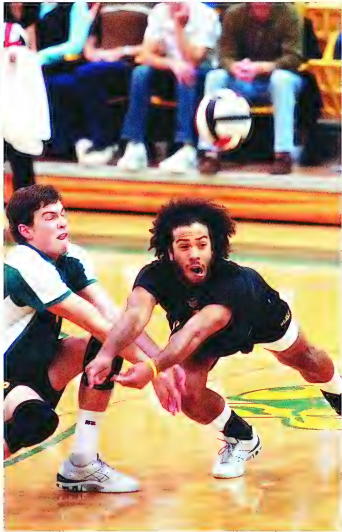


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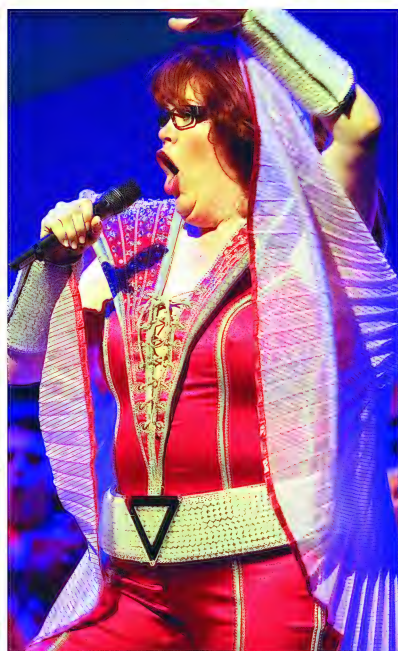
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## It was the best of times, it was the blurst of times

2005 proved to be a lacklustre year for a film industry that was already taking hits from Internet pirates and their own stale ideas. Still, the few works of art that made it to the silver screen this year may have managed to just barely balance out the suck. Enjoy.



GROUP COMMENTARY

With 2005 proving to be a disappointing year for an movie industry hoping for big profits, sifting through the annual sludge to pick out the year's best (and worst) films proved to be quite a task. From your standard haunted house to some sort of plan that grows a brain or something, this last year managed to both produce enough crap to drive audiences away from theatres like never before. But, just like tiny pieces of corn, enough cinematic gems squeaked through in 2005 to compile an entire list. From the minds of a handful of Gateway film reviewers comes the best and worst films of 2005.

### MIKE LAROCQUE

**Best:** *Munich*

A late entry into the match, Steven Spielberg managed to release *Munich*, his story of the events and aftermath of the killings at the 1972 Munich Olympics. While critics have pointed out that Spielberg takes some creative license with the story, his occasional departures from history—such as adding an encounter by the Israeli squad with an unwitting Palestinian terrorist cell—only serve to heighten the most human aspects of the film. *Munich* is more than a telling of the murder of Israeli Olympians: it shows the tremendous toll that murder and revenge take on otherwise moral people.

### Worst: *King Kong*

Alright, I guess it wasn't that bad, but I'm risking slings and arrows and giving *King Kong* an enormous thumbs-down for being, in my opinion, the biggest letdown of 2005. For all of its beautiful cinematography and its near-perfect capture of 1930s America, *King Kong* seemed to be aiming to please on those levels alone, with much of the plot and characters being promptly ignored once Kong enters the picture. Sure, Kong is a sensitive and misunderstood creature, but the audience doesn't need 45 minutes of emoting aye eyes to grasp that concept. Along with extended scenes of Kong/T-rex fighting and charging brontosaurus, the movie clocked in at an attention-straining three hours.

### ADAM GALMONT

**Best:** *March of the Penguins*

Although it's a documentary about penguins, this film is compelling because of what it shows us about life in general. The penguins' will to survive and reproduce, to adapt and flourish in an unforgiving and uninviting environment, is the ultimate inspiration. These penguins don't know why they exist, and endure inconceivable suffering all the while—yet they continue to plod on stubbornly nonetheless, trekking there and back again across what seems like a senseless long migratory path.

### Worst: *Harry Potter & the Goblet of Fire*

Don't get me wrong here: this was a good movie, in and of itself. But as a portrayal of the novel, it just didn't cut it. While certain omissions are understandable, other changes are less forgivable. From minor details such as the colour of Hermione's dress at the Yule Ball to more serious infractions such as the downplaying of Rita Skeeter's role and the outright exclusion



ONE OF THESE THINGS IS NOT LIKE THE OTHER Because one of these movies didn't suck. Can you guess which film the Gateway spared from ridicule?

of Dobby and the house-elves (crucial to the plot in the novel), Newell and his crew nipped and tucked the storyline in a lot of places they shouldn't have. The result: a cosmetically more attractive, but less integral, summarization of a story they should have been kept intact.

### PATRICK ROSS

**Best:** *Lord of War*

I'm not sure if I'd call this a good movie so much as an obscene work of insane genius, but, in my opinion, nothing released in 2005 came anywhere close to matching it. Nicholas Cage's character—a ruthless, unscrupulous arms dealer—ranks with some of the most despicable characters portrayed in the history of cinema. After all, it takes a very special brand of villain to make me wish AIDS upon them. When all was said and done, *Lord of War* is the political film that George Clooney's *Syriana* only wishes it was.

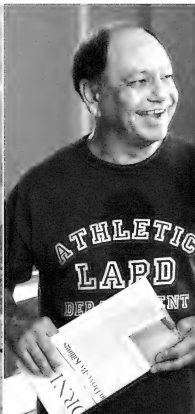
### Worst: *Stealth*

The worst offender of 2005 was by far *Stealth*. Not even the presence of Jessica Biel could save this piece of garbage, probably best described as *Fire Fox* meets *Terminator 3*, with a steaming load of *Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle* thrown in just to make goddamned sure the Hollywood exec who gave it the green light owes everyone who has seen it an apology. Not since *Executive Decision* has a supposed "main character" been deep-sixed so quickly and meaninglessly. Watch this film, then tell me if you actually give a shit that Jamie Fox gets offed. Better yet, tell me if you noticed.

### EDMON ROTEA

**Best:** *Batman Begins*

With imaginative re-telling of the Batman myths that's realistic and more grounded within reality, this long-awaited installment in the Batman movie series has revived a dying film franchise. With its beautiful cinematography, scenery and set designs, *Batman Begins* looked a lot like an art-house film—one that features a well-paced plot and storyline, excellent action scenes, and villains that aren't the larger-than-life comic book caricatures seen in previous Batman films.



### Worst: *The Amityville Horror*

While in itself not a terrible remake of the 1970s film, *The Amityville Horror* still fell far short of living up to its predecessor. The film proved to be more a showcase for Ryan Reynolds' abs than an actual story about the house, and despite decent acting and an already proven story to fall back on, the movie didn't impress. With the only improvement over the original being the special effects, this flick was easily one of the worst of 2005.

### DANIEL KASZOR

**Best:** *Munich*

While there are a lot of films that haven't already been mentioned that deserve accolades (*Brokeback Mountain*, *Kiss Kiss Bang Bang*, and *Good Night, and Good Luck* come to mind), I have to agree with Mr Larocque on this one and vote *Munich* as best of 2005. Spielberg has certainly tackled serious subject matter before, but this is the first film where there's any moral ambiguity. The film is about a lot of things but, at its heart, it's about what it means to have a home, what you have to do to protect that home, and how in that brutal protection you can lose what you were guarding. While *Raiders of the Lost Ark* will probably always be my favourite Spielberg film, but this is certainly its most mature work.

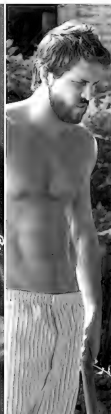
### Worst: *The Underclassman*

Nick Cannon, star of *Drumline*, plays an under-cover cop at a high school. Cheech Marin, star of *Nash Bridges*, is slumming' in this one. 'Nuff said.

### MIKE KENDRICK

**Best & Worst:** *Star Wars: Episode III*

In the midst of contenders, *Star Wars: Episode III* stands out as both the best and the worst movie of 2005. No other film this year drew millions of fans cosplaying as the most obscure characters from the depths of the *Expanded Universe* to theatres in hordes larger than the Republic Clone Army for weeks before it screened. Not only did it awe us with an epic, 35-minute action sequence straight from the opening fanfare, but



dragged us along for the remaining 115 minutes that could only be described as "Horrificious", a horrifying and delicious mixture of forced acting and fucking cool special effects. Clad in my Jedi Knight attire, I gritted my teeth as the dialogue carelessly defecated on the integrity of Natalie Portman's acting career while I pained to identify pointless split-second cameos of characters from the original trilogy, only to be ultimately satisfied with the end result. *Episode III* is far from Oscar worthy, and doesn't hope to live up to its predecessors of decades past, but it flawlessly bridged the gap between the old and the new to keep Star Wars geeks like myself happier than a Jawa at a flea market.

### JAKE TROUGHTON

**Best movie:** *Serenity*

The latest Star Wars may have drawn the nerdy masses, but for we truly discriminating nerds, there's no question what the best film of 2005 was. *Serenity*, the continuation of Joss Whedon's short-lived but dearly loved TV series *Firefly*, has it all: humour, drama, a compelling plot, witty dialogue, and action and CGI that's not only exciting, but actually serves the story. That story, following two fugitives and a crew of space outlaws as they evade a murderous government operative, is far beyond what's typically seen in Hollywood sci-fi or action, and the cast—especially Edmontson's Nathan Fillion as Captain Reynolds—fit their roles brilliantly. Whedon also takes his signature emotional wringing to another level; one moment you're laughing, and literally less than a second later you're gasping in shock and horror. By the end, you're legitimately afraid that everyone might die; that in itself makes *Serenity* memorable.

**Worst movie:** *Serenity (as seen at Cinema City 12)*

I know I only paid \$1 for this particular viewing (my fifth and last in theatres, for the record), but I don't think it's too much to ask for them to show, y'know, the whole movie. Instead, I saw the film with noticeable portions of the edges cropped off the screen, which is no way to watch a film—especially one by a director like Whedon, who makes a point of utilizing the entire frame. It's frustrating to hear characters speak while seeing a seemingly empty room, when you know damn well there's someone there.

# Avoiding the suck, one year at a time



AMANDA  
ASH

You hear a catchy song. You dedicate your precious time and money to buying the album, assuming the other songs will be just as delightful. Then, you pop the CD into your player, waiting to be graced with ten times the orgasmic goodness, only to be greeted by washed-out vocals, repetitive riffs and the sprouting feelings of utter rage and total depression.

This is, indeed, a horribly familiar situation. However, if you're looking for some CDs that won't leave you wondering whether or you should've spent your money on a case of beer instead, here's a list of 2005's top five albums:

## 5. *Matt Mays and El Torpedo*—*Matt Mays and El Torpedo*

If you've seen the video for "Cocaine Cowgirl," then don't let the guys' hobo-esque get-up fool you into thinking they're no-talent bums. In fact, the East Coast rockers are extremely capable musicians, and after listening to their album, you'll understand why it earned them a Juno nomination last year.

Matt Mays' CD is perfect to listen to whether you're cruisin' down the highway, or just sitting back and relaxing. Honest vocals, laid-back guitars, and rustic lyrics dance throughout each track, demonstrating the beauty that can emerge from simplicity. All in all, *Matt Mays and El Torpedo* is worth every penny.

## 4. *Hot Hot Heat*—*Elevator*

The Vancouver-based quartet's latest album, *Elevator*, is one you can listen to over and over again without getting bored. The songs are upbeat, the vocals are flavourful and an irresistible toe-tapping vibe runs throughout the CD, making for a colorful punk-



**Metric Beats the System** The indie group took the top spot with *Live It Out*. The hit album had the band playing Edmonton four times in 2005.

rock montage. *Elevator* is definitely a party in a plastic case, and you'll be missing out if you don't pick it up.

## 3. *Beck*—*Guerro*

If his deep, masculine voice isn't enough to rope you into buying the CD, then saying that every song is worth listening closely to should. Not only are his songs original, unique and mellow, but they're also thought-provoking and philosophical. Each and every tune has its own individual personality, reflecting bits and pieces of Beck's artistic genius. *Guerro* is, by far, one of the year's best albums and is guaranteed to be favourite.

## 2. *Maximo Park*—*A Certain Trigger*

Take Franz Ferdinand, add a heaping serving of tea and crumpets and throw in some chocolate-covered espresso beans: what you'll end up with is the catchy and undying liveliness of *Maximo Park*.

The Brit band has certainly made a name for themselves in the UK over the past year and it's only a matter of time before they explode onto the music scene in North America. *A Certain Trigger* is a feel-good, dance-

your-pants-off album, and although you probably don't know it yet, that little space on your CD shelf has *Maximo Park's* name written upon it.

## 1. *Metric*—*Live It Out*

With the success of 2003's *Old World Underground*, the release of *Live It Out* in October spawned all sorts of concerns, including the question of whether Metric's new album would live up to the standards of its older sister. Although it's hard to say whether or not *Live It Out* has triumphed over *Old World Underground*, it has definitely prevailed over all other albums released in 2005.

Despite their rapidly growing fame and emergence onto mainstream rock stations, Metric has proved its ability to produce a sound that is both uniquely structured yet widely loved. A combination of image-packed lyrics, innocent vocals and raw guitars, drums and synthesizers truly reveals the band's creativity, along with their fearless avant-garde attitude towards music. Every song on *Live It Out* is a hit, and if there's a band who has set the bar for 2006, Metric is, undoubtedly, the one.

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# Kaszor's food box 2005: go or no-go?



DANIEL  
KASZOR

Food. All eat it, most love it. Here are the greatest meals that I had in 2005. Some stirred the pallet sublety, others rocked the taste buds with their lowbrow MSG-laced greatness. All, however, filled me up. I hope that in reading this you will have more ideas about where you can fill up your own stomachs and beat another year of hunger.

## 5. *Pineapple Chicken Balls* *Happy Garden, Edmonton*

Although most meals from Happy Garden are tasty, this meal in particular was especially memorable. The especially delicious pineapple chicken balls are similar to Happy Garden's Lemon Chicken, but in a smaller bite-sized shape with a better

sauce. Great indeed. That said, if you go to Happy Garden, make sure to bring lots of people so you can try as many dishes as possible.

## 4. *Full Dinner* *The King & I*

The Thai-style cuisine of the King & I was the perfect way to end the school year. Like the Happy Garden, meals at The King & I are best eaten in groups, so that you can have the largest selection of flavours.

## 3. *Breakfast* *High Level Diner*

Moving up two spots from last year is the High Level Diner's breakfast. Still the best tasting set of home-style bacon, eggs and hash browns for \$5. Interested eaters should make sure to try the Diner's special ketchup that has a less sugary and more tomatoey taste.

## 2. *Pork thing wrapped in ham* *Characters*

I unfortunately can't remember

the name of the meal that I had at Characters, but that's because its taste was being enhanced by an excellent bottle of red wine. What I do remember was how the different flavours came together to make a meal that I will remember well into 2006. Afterward the meal was chased with a cornucopia of chocolate cake.

## 1. *Christmas Dinner* *My Mom*

Yes, I know, giving my mom the top spot here seems suspect, but she came through her first real Christmas dinner with flying colours. The turkey was some of the juiciest and tastiest that I've ever had the pleasure of eating. Alongside the bountiful bird was a bowl of mashed potatoes that hit the perfect mixture of chunky and fluffy. Covering both of these was delectable gravy that added another level to the package. Well done, Mom. (Note: I've had Dan's Mom's cooking, and can verify that it is uncommonly delicious—David Berry)

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# A poor 2005 hopefully means roadkill for contrived animation



NICHOLAS  
TAM

The major studios have tied an entire medium of expression to the story-telling paradigm of fluffy, pop-culture parody, and audiences aren't buying it.

Film historians may come to remember 2005 as the year that the meteoric rise of computer animation in the decade since *Toy Story* veered off its course to infinity and beyond, and fell back to Earth with style.

For all the talk of a slump year at the box office, nowhere was it more noticeable than with last year's crop of feature-length CG movies—chief among them *Robots*, *Madagascar* and *Chicken Little*. None of them broke the \$200 million barrier in North America—the modern benchmark for a modest blockbuster—in spite of record theatre bookings and normally lucrative release timetables. Up to 2004, the overwhelming majority of CG releases soared past this threshold with ease.

What's more, traditional media still showed a few signs of life. *Wallace & Gromit* and *Corpse Bride*, both made in state-of-the-art stop-motion over a span of five years, opened to respectable crowds and rave reviews in the slow fall season, and with only a fraction of the promotional effort. Both are well positioned to be sure-fire Oscar nominees.

But that's enough of the numbers game. The real problem, as regular cineastes have no doubt noticed, is that there is something stale about how the major films are promoted and what they actually consist of.

... 2006 boasts roughly a dozen all-CG films slated for wide release, starting with *Hoodwinked* this Friday. About a third of them involve animals with celebrity voices displaced into urban environments. Be grateful it's only a third.

The low box office figures and deservedly ho-hum reviews that marked 2005 should make for a sufficient kick in the pants telling industry executives that cloning *Shrek* is not above the law of diminishing returns. Unfortunately, given the two-to-four-year development time of an average big-screen animated film, it will be some time before we see the fruits of their formal response.

First comes the ordeal of seeing them shunt the late babies of the CG boom out the door. 2006 boasts roughly a dozen all-CG feature films slated for wide release, starting with *Hoodwinked* this Friday. About a third of them involve animals with celebrity voices displaced into urban environments. Be grateful it's only a



A FUNKY CHICKEN IS COOL, RIGHT? Animated films fell flat in 2005, with feature-length crap like *Chicken Little*.

third.

Make no mistake: computer animation is here to stay. It is too cost-effective, and yet too costly a gamble, to be abandoned now. But the future of the industry won't be about who paints the prettiest picture of the funniest movie-star impressions, and there will probably be an ample number of box-office bombs in 2006 to remind us of the fact. Finances notwithstanding, all of the major players know how to render fur, clothing and

the elements at photorealistic quality; the upper limit is no longer set by the tools, but by imagination and craftsmanship. Future successes will depend on stories and aesthetics that are unique and distinguishable, not derivative.

The response to the 2005 slump looks encouraging. For instance, Disney's long-term plans include a *Rapunzel* movie sporting an oil-on-canvas look. Originally pitched as a fractured fairy tale, as if we needed

another one, it is now allegedly being rewritten as a purer fantasy in the vein of what was once the studio's bread and butter.

Ultimately, the sobering burst of the CG bubble should pay off handsomely for animation buffs. In the years to come, we will be rewarded with greater diversity in technique and imagination. But first, expect to sit through another discouraging year of star-studded rip-offs.



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**GOD OF THE GAMES** Not quite, but *God of War* was one of the best games released last year.

## A year of gaming: 2005 in review



RAMIN  
OSTAD

### 4. *Mario Kart DS*

While essentially *Mario Kart* transferred to a handheld, this version of the game contains not only new courses, but also a selection of tracks from past *Mario Kart* titles. There are tons of cars, tracks and characters to be unlocked, as well as two battle modes and plenty of mission modes to choose from. The one feature that tops all of those, however, is the ability to play it wirelessly against players from all over the world. With a game like that, it's no wonder the DS passed the four million unit mark in North America this holiday season.

### 3. *God of War*

The opportunity to use the term "bitchin'" when describing a game doesn't often present itself, but *God of War* is sure as hell worth the occasion. A creative and original story, beautiful graphics, an amazing score, and an unbelievably intuitive fighting system reminiscent of the *Tony Hawk* series are just a few of the reasons that *God of War* is a game worth buying for anyone needing a serious shot of adrenaline.

### 2. *Civilization IV*

The *Civilization* series, while undeniably popular, has not always produced the best games. *Civ IV* not only fixes the problem of previous installments, but also adds the aspect of religion, making it the most complete game in the series. In fact, this game could very well have been the number one game of the year if not for serious bugs upon release. ATI cards barely played the game if they could boot it at all, and it had more memory leak issues than a well, we'll just leave that joke alone. Nevertheless, the fact that it still finishes in second is a testament to its quality.

### 1. *Resident Evil 4*

*Resident Evil 4* is a phenomenal game in every aspect. It revitalized a series that had become stagnant and repetitive, making it once again terrifying and exciting. The action never lets up, with a constant stream of increasingly difficult enemies in increasingly large numbers. The story is also terrific—and slightly *Lovecraftian*—finally taking the series out of the dreary Raccoon City and into dark, intricately crafted environments, going toe to toe in graphical quality with any other game of last year. The PS2 version also comes with extended gameplay, giving you more than 40 hours of zombie-killing action. 2005's best game of the year is a no contest, stranger?

With 2005 officially over and the talk of the gaming industry being on the big holiday-releases, it's easy to forget that, by far, the best games of the year were released in the eleven months not associated with Christmas. With so many games hitting the market, it would be easy to pan the most terrible of the lot. The harder feat, however, is choosing those exalted few that managed to come closest to perfection in the last 365 days. So, sticking with positive thoughts, here are seven best games of 2005—because ten is so cliché.

### 7. *Indigo Prophecy*

That's correct, an adventure game made it onto the top ten. While this genre has been in a slow decline, *Indigo Prophecy* did something very difficult: it made adventure games fun again. Billed as an interactive movie, it has a deep, film-noir story line combined with immersive, well paced gameplay that makes it a must-play for those who miss the old days of *Monkey Island*.

### 6. *FEAR*

In a genre saturated with games covering WWII, *FEAR* stood out as one of the best shooters of last year, and not only because we didn't have to kill anymore damned dirty Nazis. While the story was somewhat lacking, *FEAR*'s phenomenal and intense action sequences, realistic AI, and gorgeous, balls-out graphics made for a pleasant break from tradition for FPS fans and an easy pick for the top ten.

### 5. *Dragon Quest VIII*

2005 wasn't the best year for role playing games. However, *Dragon Quest VIII* managed to capture the best of the genre, bringing the series that spawned a generation of RPG games back into the spotlight. With a beautiful art style and difficult, while perhaps not altogether original, gameplay, *DQVIII* reminded us of all the things we love about RPG games, while simultaneously showing us how crappy *Final Fantasy* has become.



**SHE-MARLEY?** Sista J-Zealous of the Edmonton based SOULIAH FYAH brought Jamaican beats to the Sidetrack Café Saturday. The group performed as part of the venue's Reggae Xplosion 2006.



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# SPORTS

sports@gateway.alberta.ca • Tuesday, 10 January 2006

## Basketball Bears deny themselves sweep

Inconsistent play shows the best and the worst of Bears basketball team in disappointing weekend split with Winnipeg Wesmen



**FINDING HIS NICHE** Bears forward Scott Gordon found his scoring touch in Saturday night's game.

PAUL OWEN  
Sports Staff

The Golden Bears basketball team once again proved to be consistently inconsistent in a weekend split against the Winnipeg Wesmen. The Bears barely held on to a 15-point lead with five minutes to play on Friday before downing the Wesmen 87-80, but then couldn't take advantage of terrific performances from Dean Whalen and Scott Gordon Saturday, as they fell 76-73.

The Bears used a defensive change and some lights-out shooting from Whalen to spur a second-half run on Friday, after Winnipeg had played them tight for the game's first 30 minutes, but then allowed the Wesmen to shoot their way back into it and cut the lead to five with a minute to play. The lacklustre finish from Alberta left head coach Don Horwood unsatisfied.

"We had spurts. I wasn't happy with the last couple minutes. We let them get a lot of threes. Good teams don't quit, and our guys felt they had the game won and didn't make the effort down the stretch," he said. "Everyone gave us a little bit and overall it wasn't bad, but I didn't think we finished the game well and that leaves a bad taste in my mouth."

Dean Whalen had his best game of the season in the win, scoring 37 points on 14-19 shooting and leading the Bears with 11 rebounds, impressing both coaches.

"Dean bailed us out, he was all-world," said Horwood of his team's leading scorer.

"I thought we made some errors defensively that gave them some open shots in the second half and they really capitalized—Whalen was unbelievable, he couldn't miss tonight," said Wesmen head coach Dave Crook. "[With] Hudson, Steele and Dean and the way those guys shoot the ball, you can't make errors."

Post Dan Shynkaryk led the way for Winnipeg with 27 points while getting the Bears' big men in foul trouble.

"I thought our guys got Dan the ball in good spots, and when you get the ball down deep like that, you're going to draw some fouls," remarked Crook.

Saturday night would see a reversal of fortunes for the Bears. Despite double-teaming Shynkaryk and keeping him to only 3-10 shooting, the Bears would squander a 24-point and 16-rebound effort from post Scott Gordon by shooting only 59 per cent from the free-throw line.

"Missed free throws cost us the game. They made theirs down the stretch and we missed big ones when we could have pulled away to give us some breathing space," said a frustrated Horwood. "Again, it was what we did, not what they did. We allowed them to stay in the game and hit those shots at the end."

Unlike the previous night, the paint was owned by a Golden Bear in Gordon, who had his best statistical game of the season.

"I think I was trying to do too much at the beginning [of the season]. I was thinking too much and getting my head too much in it. Sometimes you're just got to let yourself do what you're going to do and kind of feel the game, so I'm just pushing my head out of the way and going with the flow and it seems to be working for me right now," he said. "We've got guys like Dean-o shooting so well, I don't care who's scoring as long as the points are dropping. If we could get a couple more guys on the outside hitting shots we'd be okay. I don't mind banging on the inside trying to get rebounds if the guys are hitting their shots."

The Bears will head to Calgary this coming weekend for a pair of games against the Dinosaurs.

## Whalen finally gets to take the reigns in his fifth year with Bears

CHRIS O'LEARY  
Sports Editor

With the shot clock winding down in the early stages of a tight game on Friday night, fifth-year Golden Bears shooting guard Dean Whalen calmly caught the ball and held it, waiting until the last second before firing off an impossible-looking fade-away jumper from behind the backboard. As the shot dropped through the net, just two of Whalen's 23 first-half points, his play confirmed for those in attendance what the Bears basketball team has known since the start of the season: this is Dean Whalen's team.

"He's the man," Bears head coach Don Horwood states frankly. "He's got a green light, he's got to shoot the ball; we know that and he knows that. He's got leeway; he knows that he's not coming out if he misses. He's doing what he knows he's capable of doing."

While Whalen has long known what he's capable of doing on the court, it's taken all three of his years at the University for him and the Bears' coaching staff to get on the same page.

"Part of Dean's problem was that in his first two years he was playing behind Mike Melnychuk, Tyler Coston and Phil Scherer and those guys were proven entities. [Whalen] would get in a game and he'd get five or six minutes and if he wasn't hitting anything we'd have to take him out," Horwood explains. "We couldn't afford to go with him that long because we had other guys that had already proven themselves. So it's a dilemma for a guy to prove himself like that. You've got a certain amount of minutes to do it, and plus, as the year goes on you feel the added pressure that you've got to score to keep playing."

"My first two years here were very hard men-

tally and emotionally," admits Whalen, who's seen his scoring average jump from 7.8 points per game last season to CIBC career-best 18.6 points this year. "I don't want to dwell on it too much, but I'm just really thankful for the year I'm having."

Whalen transferred to Alberta at the start of the 2002/03 season from the University of Northern British Columbia, where he averaged 27.9 points per game and became the first BCCA player to score more than 500 points in a season. Transferring into a program where his talents were forced into a reserve role was difficult to say the least. He took the 2003/04 season off to re-evaluate what he wanted.

"I thought about a lot of things; I was going to school and working. I considered everything. I considered not coming back. I considered coming back, and what it would be like and ultimately I came to the decision to come back," he says.

Horwood says that at the time, losing Whalen wouldn't have been a team-altering move. "That's changed through the course of this season."

"We didn't know if we lost him, if it'd make any difference or not. In hindsight, we wish we'd played him more, but in the past few years, who do you sit to play him? At the time, [Melnychuk] was our clutch player year after year after year. We knew Mike; we didn't know Dean, we hadn't seen him play. That's one of the things that a new player coming into the program has to deal with. Until you earn [the coaches' confidence], it's tough. Right now, obviously he's the guy we've got to go to."

With the loss of post player Phil Sudol, Horwood changed the team's offence, and with that change, Whalen has blossomed.



**HE'S A SHOOTER** Coaches across Canada are cringing when Dean Whalen gets an open look.

"We have more creativity in our offence and it really helps our guards," Whalen says. "Now we just have to get our guards playing consistently."

Now that Whalen is currently sitting at fifth in the Canada West conference in scoring and 15th in the nation, Horwood says that teams now know what Whalen's capable of and that in the coming weeks, the team will have to adjust to that.

"It's going to affect Dean more than he understands. As teams understand that he's the man,

he's not going to get as much open room. We're going to have to create shots for him, which we will, but it's going to get harder and harder for him as we move down the stretch."

With Whalen finally happy with his role on the team, he's ready for whatever his final season with the Bears holds for him.

"It's my last year and I wanted to play to my capability and that's what's happening," he says. "Everyone's happy with their role and it's great for team cohesion and hopefully it stays that way for the rest of the year."



**SUPER ROOK** First-year Panda Maya Tezca and her teammates had all of the answers on Friday against the Wesmen. PHIL HEAD

## Pandas hoops turn the corner, then turn back

CHRIS O'LEARY  
Sports Editor

Just when it looked like the Pandas basketball team had left their inconsistent ways behind them, they found themselves starting another weekend split in the face after they knocked off the visiting Winnipeg Wesmen 85-77 in overtime on Friday then dropped a 71-55 decision to them on Saturday night.

The Pandas rallied behind the strong inside play of rookie Maya Tezca and second-year guard Michelle Smith on Friday night, forcing last year's CIS silver medalists to play catch-up for the majority of the night. Unfortunately for the Pandas, the Wesmen did just that, as fourth-year guard Uzoma Asagwara was able to convert all three of her attempts from the line with 15 seconds remaining in the game to tie the score and send it to overtime.

In the extra session, it was a core of head coach Trish Baker's second-year players that took control. Post Kristin Jarock scored the team's first two buckets, and took a charge on the defensive end; Smith and her backcourt teammate, Kara Stevens, collected key offensive rebounds and scored inside and point guard Ashley Wigg found her teammates at the right time for them to score. Jarock provided the exclamation point on the night, as she dribbled out the clock, then hit a 15-footer as the buzzer sounded to give the Pandas the eight-point victory.

"[Jarock's] capable of doing that," said Baker. "I thought Wigg and Smith took over in overtime; everyone stepped up. Kara Stevens did a phenomenal job on Asagwara, she made her take the outside shot. I thought

everyone stepped up, and Jarock was in the right place at the right time. She played very well."

**"She's for sure the key to our team right now. She doesn't make mistakes. She doesn't turn the ball over, and she gets a lot of defensive rebounds. She was the MVP in Montréal and she played like this."**

**PANDAS HEAD COACH  
TRISH BAKER  
ON GUARD MICHELLE SMITH**

With five Pandas scoring in double figures, Smith led her team with 18 points and pulled in a game-high 11 rebounds on the night. Baker was quick to point out that Smith had been the difference in the team's three-game in-conference win streak and seven-game streak overall, which included a first-place finish at a tournament at Concordia over Christmas.

"She's for sure the key to our team right now. She doesn't make mistakes; she doesn't turn the ball over, and she gets a lot of defensive rebounds. She was the MVP in Montréal and she played like this," Baker said.

The play that Baker had been so proud of on Friday night seemed to disappear when the ball went up on Saturday night. The Pandas struggled to get any kind of rhythm on offence, and while their defence was adequate,

they only managed 19 first-half points to the Wesmen's 27. Winnipeg pulled away in the second half, as the Pandas could only find iron on their attempts. While five players had scored in double-figures Friday, only Tezca and second-year forward Trish Ariss hit double digits on Saturday, with eleven and ten, respectively.

"We shot 18 per cent from the floor, and when you do that, you're not going to beat anybody," Baker said. "Some people were tired, but we had people come in who didn't play minutes last night and still couldn't get it done. I thought [Winnipeg's] other players stepped up and we didn't have anybody who did that. That's what you get. It's great to celebrate a win, but it doesn't mean anything when it's over."

As Baker noted, Winnipeg got a balanced effort from that team, something that was missing in Friday's game.

Third-year Winnipeg forward Stefanie Timmersman, who scored 39 points and grabbed 25 rebounds on the weekend, was happy to see her teammates get involved on Saturday, and refuted the notion that she played on a two-option team.

"People are going to find [the team has depth] as the season progresses," Timmersman said. "We have way more than me and [Asagwara]. No team's going to be successful with just two players and we know that. [Asagwara's] had big weekends where she scored 36 and 39 and we lost both. In one game I scored 36 and we lost. We all know it has to be a team effort and it will be. We have a young team and we're learning a lot as we go. The more people contribute it's really going to help us out."

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# Hockey Pandas burned by former teammate in exhibition match against the Chimos

MIKE KENDRICK  
Sports Staff

The Pandas received a taste of the playoffs last Friday, when they faced the Edmonton Chimos in an exhibition fundraiser for Fort Saskatchewan Girls' Hockey at the Jubilee Recreation Centre. In a hard-fought battle, the Chimos bested their campus counterparts in a 3-0 victory at the hands of former Panda and current Chimos scoring leader Danielle Bourgeois.

Pandas head coach Howie Draper said that games against teams like the Chimos serve a number of purposes for team building.

"It's a benchmark for us to see how much we're improving. We also use it for an opportunity to play in situations that we will probably be in when we're in the playoffs, and the competition gets a little bit tighter. We're not used to being down too much, and it benefits us to be able to experience that and learn how to adjust."

The Chimos came out strong early in the game, striking first at 3:53 on forward Courtney Sawchuk's tip from linemate Aimee Whittaker. The Pandas would not let an early lapse keep them down, as they tried to claw their way back into the game as they went into the second period.

Several Chimos' penalties allowed the Pandas to establish control through the period, despite being unable to capitalize on numerous powerplay opportunities. Draper attributed some of their offensive inefficiencies to the absence of second-year forward Tara Podloski, who was with Canada's under-22 team in Germany.

"[Missing Podloski] may have hurt us a little bit," commented Draper.



**A SMALL BUT MIGHTY CHALLENGE** Kaye London (12) and her Panda teammates couldn't get the puck past the Edmonton Chimos goaltender on Friday night. JAKE TROUGHTON

"We had a lot of chances, and they had some great goaltending. They're a strong team, so you've got to make sure that you utilize those opportunities when you have them. I don't think we really did that tonight."

Midway through the third, Bourgeois received her first taste of scoring against her old team in a two-on-one attack with forward Ashleigh Schols. Bourgeois didn't think her experience with the Pandas was a major factor in being able to score

against netminder Holly Tarleton, however, giving more credit to her focus on the game.

"I was thinking what I would do if I went against Holly. She knows how I shoot ... [but] it's just going out there and playing against an opponent, not paying so much attention to who they are, and more attention to what you're doing and kind of stick to your game."

After missing a penalty shot high and wide of the net, the Chimos sealed

the game with a breakaway goal in the final minutes of the third period.

Despite the loss, which pushed the Chimos-Pandas exhibition record to 17-13-4 for the Chimos, Draper is pleased to see his former players carry on in leagues like the Western Women's Hockey League.

"I think it's a real plus. I think those players are making the Chimos better, and if that makes the Chimos better, then ultimately, it will make us better when we play them."

The Pandas will look to avenge their second shut-out loss of the season (the first came from the Calgary Oval Xtreme in pre-season action) when they play the Chimos in the back-end of their exhibition series next Saturday at 4:30pm. The game will be played at the Jubilee Recreation Centre in Fort Saskatchewan.

The Pandas won't face in-competition until the weekend of 20 January, when they'll host the Regina Cougars at Clare Drake Arena.

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## Hockey's return, Esk's Grey Cup win, tops in 2005



ROSS PRUSAKOWSKI

Sports  
Commentary

## 1. The NHL strikes back

There can be little doubt about what the top story of 2005 is in a country as hockey mad as Canada. The year started on the lowest of lows for the NHL and its fans—the cancelling of the season in February—but the July signing of a collective bargaining agreement ensured the survival and competitiveness of Canadian small market teams and paved the way for a re-launch of the game. The league hasn't looked back from there. From the draft lottery and the Sidney Crosby sweepstakes, to new rules and schedules, to star players landing in unlikely markets, the return of the game on the ice has been met with fantastic success and the fans (at least in Canada) have flocked back. While various parts of hockey's return could be the top-five stories of 2005 all on their own, they weren't the only thing that happened during the year in the sports world.

## 2. The Cup may be Grey, but the game sure wasn't

When the CFL kicked off its season in June, everyone was hoping and betting on a rematch of the 2004 Grey Cup between the BC Lions and the Toronto Argonauts to keep the league's two biggest markets involved. However, when the dust settled, the Edmonton Eskimos and Montréal Alouettes rode

their late-season momentum into the final and they made it a classic. A sell-out crowd in Vancouver and millions watching on TV saw everything the CFL had to offer, from great defence to offensive outbursts to stellar special team action, including a 96-yard kickoff return for a touchdown. If that wasn't enough to push the game into the pantheon of all-time greatest Grey Cup, fans were treated to overtime for the first time since 1961, and saw more spectacular catches and an astounding double passing play. However, in the end it was only a simple field goal that was needed to capture the cup for Edmonton 38–35, putting the cherry on a great season.

## 3. One MVP to rule them all

Despite the long hair and British Columbia background that would seem to make him better suited on the ice than the hardwood, Steve Nash has become a star in the NBA. In 2005, he finally arrived at the top of the sport, capturing MVP honours and becoming the first Canadian and second-ever international player to capture the award. Nash was recognized for his leadership on the court and his central role in the revival of the Phoenix Suns. If helping carry the team from the NBA's basement to the penthouse wasn't enough, Nash also managed to notch a handful of other notable achievements. From posting the NBA's best assist average in the last ten years, to providing an off-the-head assist on one of the most spectacular dunks during the Slam Dunk contest during last year's all-star weekend, 2005 was a year full of amazing and unexpected accomplishments for Canada's greatest basketball player ever.

## 4. Drugs, drugs, drugs. Some are good, some are bad. Ask your Mom or ask your Dad

While 2005 ended on a positive note for the few dozen Toronto Blue Jays fans left, as the organization opened up its wallet and began handing out the dough to some top free agents, on the whole it was an ugly year for the sport of baseball. Ever since the breaking of the BALCO labs story in 2004, more than a few have linked steroid use to the massive increase in home runs. In 2005, the US congress finally got involved, casting a pall over the sport, catching Rafael Palmeiro in a bold-faced lie and turning up the scrutiny and pressure on baseball to come clean about steroid use and testing. In a completely unrelated note, the offensive numbers were down across the board for Major League Baseball in 2005, and more than a few former offensive stars struggled at the plate, were hampered by injuries or returned with a svelte look during the season.

## 5. Golden Boys once again

It was a long drought by Canadian hockey standards—seven tournaments—between gold medals at the World Junior hockey championships, but fans didn't have to wait that long for the next one. After dominating last year's edition of the tournament in Grand Forks with a stuffed roster thanks to the NHL lockout, an underdog 2006 Canadian team captured the World Junior crown, thanks to good teamwork and stingy defence in front of an ecstatic hometown crowd in Vancouver. The team will look for the three-peat in Stockholm next year.

## Silver, gold and upsets: varsity 2005

GATEWAY  
SPORTS STAFFSports  
Commentary

2005 was another successful year for a number of varsity teams. Three squads found gold at the national championships and two picked up silver (rugby, women's hockey). Some teams surprised, while others failed to meet their own expectations. Below is a list of what stood out for the Gateway's sports staff.

## Men's volleyball

After tasting defeat in the previous three consecutive gold-medal matches, Terry Danyuk's volleyball squad was finally able to get over the hump that was Trinity Western University on 6 March, when they topped the Spartans in a five-set thriller, 29–27, 29–31, 27–25, 18–25 and 15–13 in Quebec City. The championship put a gold-plated cap on a 35–2 season for the Bears, who were led in the championship game by the MVP performance of setter Brock Davidiak, and his 57 assists and 22 digs.

## Men's hockey

It wasn't just that the Golden Bears won the University Cup in March. It was when they won—after falling short each of the previous four years as the top seed each time. It was where they won—in front of over 10 000 fans at Rexall Place, one of the biggest non-football crowds in CIS history. And, especially, it was how they won—with

a dramatic come-from-behind victory in the championship game against the rival Saskatchewan Huskies. Many fans had already started making their way to the exits, but Ben Thomson's tying goal with 23 seconds left and the Bears' net empty brought everyone back to their seats, and when he picked up a loose rebound and potted the championship-winner five minutes into overtime, it capped one of university sport's most exciting finishes.

## Field hockey

They entered this season as blips on the national radar, but the Pandas field hockey team proceeded to blow past everyone's expectations in 2005. First, they stunned a supposed powerhouse in UVic; then they turned around the next day and ended UBC's three-year win streak with a 1–0 victory on 25 September. From there, they would go on to nationals, where they first tied UBC in the semi-final, then beat them on a Niki Baumann goal that came in sudden-death strokes. The banner is the Pandas' first, and with only two departing seniors, they're in good position to defend their national title.

## Women's hockey

The news wasn't all good, though. The Pandas were on an amazing 110-game unbeaten streak heading into the national final in March and were overwhelming favourites to win their fourth-straight title. But the Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks had other plans, and the Pandas' streak came crashing to a halt at the worst possible time as the Hawks rode a hot goaltender en route to a 4–1 win, forcing Alberta to settle for silver.

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Looking for a place to live? Check out [www.rentingspaces.ca](http://www.rentingspaces.ca) to find your next home! Hundreds of current listings throughout Edmonton. A service of your Student's Union. Couple looking for two female students to rent separate bedrooms in basement suite. Include utilities, washer, dryer, stove, fridge and separate entrance. Excellent location, bus service to campus. Rent \$275 each person. Available 30 December. Please call 434-5284 if interested.

Newly renod 900sq ft 2-bdrm home near U of A and Whyte. Rents for \$585/month+utilities, appliances. 777-7942.

Parking spot two blocks from law. \$50/month for Jan, Feb, March, April. Postdated cheques required. E-mail Darrell at [kuzmichk@gmail.com](mailto:kuzmichk@gmail.com).

1-bdrm downtown loft, direct LRT/Bus connection. 6 app; new laminate flr; small pets only. \$875/mth. \$500 SD. Ph. 893-3333.  
2-bedroom basement suite, 10670 - 61 Ave, fully renod, new fridge/washer, shared laundry, sep entrance. \$750/mth. 989-4725 days.

## FOR SALE

2-bedroom condos, close to UA, recent renovations, underground parking. \$102,000. 438-0671.

Earn cash back at your favourite Canadian online stores including: Chapters and Indigo, Expedia.ca, The Apple Store, TigerDirect.ca and over 200 other merchants. Visit us at [www.getacashbackrebates.ca](http://www.getacashbackrebates.ca).

## WANTED

Seeking one university student to market new nutritional products with wide appeal. Must be outgoing, confident, have leadership abilities and be able to interact easily with people. This is a commission based, not salary. I will provide you with free product to get you started for one month only. This gives you one month to start making money at no cost to you - except for your time. For further details, send an e-mail to [stamp1@syb.net](mailto:stamp1@syb.net). Serious enquiries only. Tell me why I should choose you.

## SERVICE

FREE HAIRCUTS. Haircut models required for downtown salon and spa. Please call Avanti at 482-2366.

Ethical editing. Professional editing, proofing and advisory consulting services. Designed to assist student writers with guidance to research, shape and complete quality term essays, undergraduate final written projects, thesis projects and dissertations. 13 years experience. U of A graduate, references available. Confidentiality assured. Call Linda direct at 490-8889.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Red Deer College in Kenya. 1-30 May, 2006. Maasai Mara Tsavo National Park, Indian Ocean Coast. Principles of ecology and/or indigenous and cultural minorities in the modern world. [www.rdc.ca](http://www.rdc.ca) (403) 342-3504.

Karma Tashi Ling Tibetan Buddhist Centre, Lama Ani Kunsang resident teacher, invites

students and staff to Buddhist meditation practice Weds 7pm, 10502 70 Ave. 623-6157.  
ASL sign language class level one begins 17 January, 2006 for twelve weeks. Tuesdays, 6:30-9:30pm. Contact Specialized Support & Disability Services, U of A, 492-3381; 2-800 SUB for more information.  
Snake kills Dumblestone.

ASL sign language class level two begins 18 January, 2006 for twelve weeks, Wednesdays, 6:30-9:30pm. Contact Specialized Support & Disability Services, U of A, 492-3381; 2-800 SUB for more information.  
Robert the Superfan is 30-something! Happy birthday!

## EMPLOYMENT - FULL TIME

Earls Bourbon St in West Edmonton Mall is hiring experienced waiters/waitresses for the upcoming busy Christmas season! We are looking for both full- and part-time employment to continue into the New Year. Please apply directly on location.

## EMPLOYMENT - PART TIME

RA Malatest & Associates Ltd, Western Canada's largest independent research firm, requires part-time interviewers. Absolutely no sales involved. French an asset. Flexible schedule. Good for students. Over \$9/hour + bonuses. Send resume to [parsons@malatest.com](mailto:parsons@malatest.com) or fax 780-448-9047.

Caregiver required for two little boys ages 2 and 4 in their home. 8am-4pm 3 or 4 days/wk. Sense of humour essential! Call Monica 437-7441.

Wanted - guitar teachers. Weed Music Ltd, the premier music school in Spruce Grove needs qualified guitar teachers. Starting at \$15/hour. Call Gehres or Laura Weed 662-6705.

PT receptionist required for sports chiropractic clinic. Campus location, flexible hours, competitive wages and FT summer hours. Applicant must possess excellent communication and customer service skills. Reception experience an asset but not required. E-mail resume to [kristens@rivalvalleyhealth.com](mailto:kristens@rivalvalleyhealth.com).

Aides needed for early evenings and weekends. Must have experience with children or special needs, obtain (upon hire) criminal record check, child welfare check, first aid and CPR.

Fax 488-6664 or e-mail [humanresources@familylinkages.ca](mailto:humanresources@familylinkages.ca) your resume.  
Grace United Church (6115 - 104 Ave) requires a mature nursery caregiver. Sunday mornings (1 1/2 hrs) for 0-2 1/2 yr olds. Valid first aid and police check required. \$20/wk. Contact Deborah 466-0916.

PT personal care aide needed for 22B quad. Southgate area, training provided. \$12/hr. Call Lisa 425-5450.

## LOST AND FOUND

Reward for 30 oral history cassette tapes. Lost near Campus Tower Hotel with a green gym also containing icon 2 way radio and file box with Metis history papers. Call Mike collect at 780-852-6164.

## PERSONALS

It's Party Time! Dial 44-PARTY Ads. Jokes, stories and MORE! Free Local Call. 18+ Ladies-railways free! Guys from 50 minutes! 1st time callers get free trial with ad code: a285. Meet new people - make new friends. Try it NOW! 780-44-PARTY.

I've been bitten by the snowboarding bug. I used to board a lot back at home. I'm looking for ppl to hit up the slopes with. I'm free to go to the local mountains after work for the evening session, and I'm pretty much free every weekend. E-mail [redelants@gmail.com](mailto:redelants@gmail.com).

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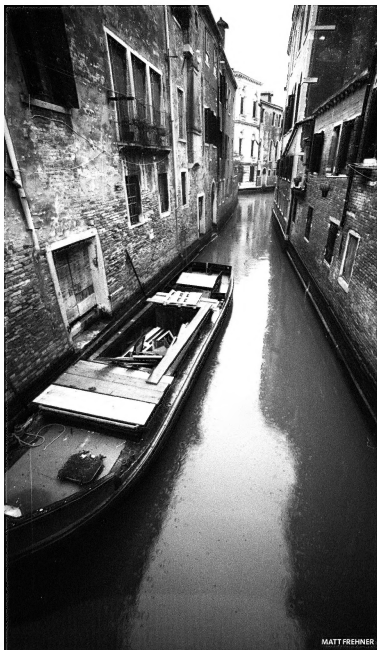
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MATT FRIEHR

## EVENT-O-TRON 3000

Campus events and more...

Public Interest Alberta presents Federal Election Forum on 12 January, 2006 at Royal Alberta Museum Theatre, 12845-102 Avenue. This Federal Election candidates forum will focus on five issues that are central to the public interest: health care, post-secondary education, early childhood services, environment/energy policy, and the "democratic deficit." The four main political parties (Liberals, Conservatives, New Democrats and Greens) have been invited to send one representative from the region in which the forum is being held. For more information, please contact Scott Harris at 420-0471 or visit [www.piaib.ca](http://www.piaib.ca).

EO73 is a service provided for Registered Student Groups and University Departments only. EO73 does not publish events that are on-going or not open to the public. We only accept free events. The Gateway reserves all right to edit all entries for length and clarity. All submissions must be made online. To place an entry in EO73, please go to [www.gatewayualberta.ca/hbkl](http://www.gatewayualberta.ca/hbkl).



Voter information card

Keep the voter information card we sent you. It has all the information you'll need to vote, and you'll get through the voting process more quickly if you have it with you.

To vote, you must be a Canadian citizen and be at least 18 years old on election day.

If you haven't received your voter information card, or if you received it but found an error in your name or address, please contact your local Elections Canada office now. You'll find the telephone number at [www.elections.ca](http://www.elections.ca) by clicking on the Voter Information Service icon.

YOU WANT TO KNOW WHERE AND WHEN TO VOTE?

ON MONDAY, JANUARY 23, VOTE.

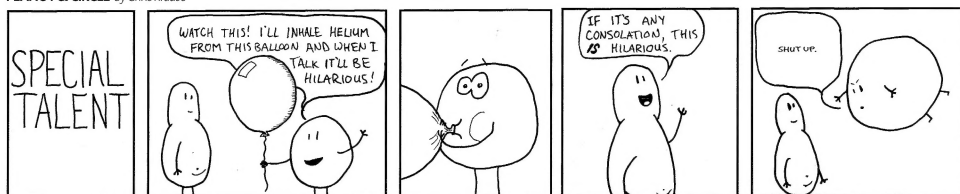
[www.elections.ca](http://www.elections.ca)

1 800 463-6868 toll-free in Canada and the United States  
001 800 514-6868 toll-free in Mexico

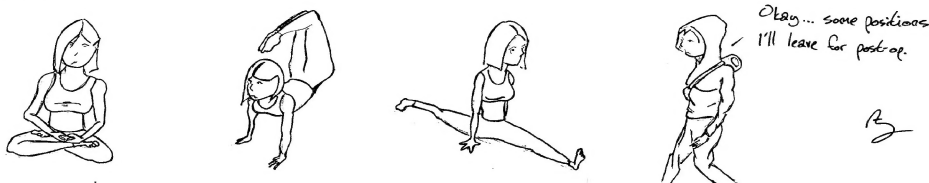
TTY 1 800 361-8935 for people who are deaf or hard of hearing  
toll-free in Canada and the United States or (613) 991-2082 from anywhere



## PEANUT &amp; CIRCLE by Chris Krause



## TRANSGENDER TROUBLE by Marie-Annick Jean



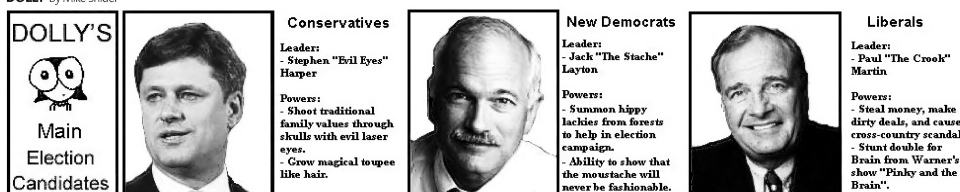
## VARSITY HAPPENINGS by Bill Benson



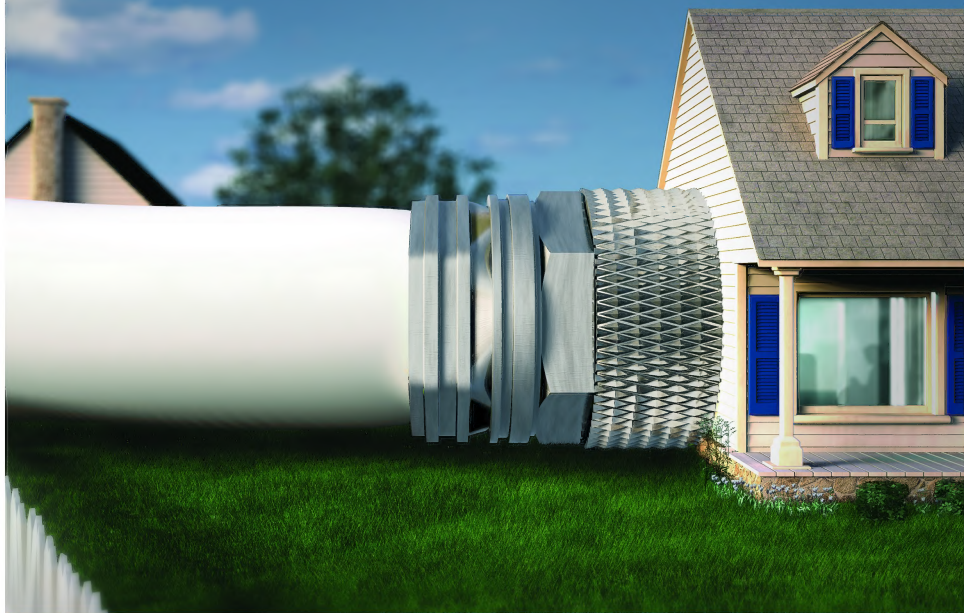
## RENT A THUG by Jeff Martin



## DOLLY by Mike Snider



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